AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A system operable to represent a user of a plurality of message mediums and to independently respond to a person wishing to ~~reach~~ communicate with the user via an unattended one of said message mediums, the system comprising:

a plurality of interface agents each coupled to a respective message medium and each operable to detect an unattended message received from the person, convert the unattended message into a written request, and relay a result to the person;

a command creator operable to convert the request into a database query;

an expert system operable to modify the query by applying a collection of rules;

a database operable to store information relating to the user; and

an output action generator operable to access the database, execute the query thereby generating the result based on the information in the database, and relay the result to the interface agents.

2. (previously presented) The system as set forth in claim 1, at least one of the interface agents being further operable to convert the result into a synthesized speech response.

3. (original) The system as set forth in claim 1, at least one of the interface agents being further operable to convert a spoken message into the written request.

4. (original) The system as set forth in claim 3, at least one of the interface agents being further operable to generate a voice signature based upon the spoken message.

5. (original) The system as set forth in claim 4, the system including an authenticator operable to match the voice signature with one of a plurality of known

records, thereby authenticating the person.

6. (original) The system as set forth in claim 1, the system including a classifier operable to create, store, and retrieve a classification associated with one of a plurality of records.

7. (original) The system as set forth in claim 1, the interface agents being selected from the group consisting of an email agent, a telephone agent, a voice-mail agent, and a video-conference agent.

8. (original) The system as set forth in claim 1, the information stored in the database being selected from the group consisting of email, word processing documents, spreadsheets, presentations, schedules, contracts, drawings, figures, telephone numbers, dates, names, records, notes, files, images, addresses, and personal data about the user.

9. (currently amended) A system operable to represent a user of a plurality of message mediums and to independently respond to a person wishing to ~~reach~~ communicate with the user via an unattended one of said message mediums, the system comprising:

a plurality of interface agents each coupled to a respective message medium and each operable to detect an unattended message received from the person, convert the unattended message into a written request, append the request with an identifier, and relay a result to the person;

an authenticator operable to match the identifier with one of a plurality of known records, thereby authenticating the person;

a classifier operable to create, store, and retrieve a classification associated with each record;

a command creator operable to convert the request into a database query;

an expert system operable to modify the query by applying a collection of

rules;

a database operable to store information relating to the user; and

an output action generator operable to access the database, execute the query thereby generating the result based on the information in the database, and relay the result to the interface agents.

10. (previously presented) The system as set forth in claim 9, at least one of the interface agents being further operable to convert the result into a synthesized speech response.

11. (original) The system as set forth in claim 9, at least one of the interface agents being further operable to convert a spoken message into the written request.

12. (original) The system as set forth in claim 11, at least one of the interface agents being further operable to generate a voice signature based upon the spoken message.

13. (original) The system as set forth in claim 9, the interface agents being selected from the group consisting of an email agent, a telephone agent, a voice-mail agent, and a video-conference agent.

14. (original) The system as set forth in claim 9, the information stored in the database being selected from the group consisting of email, word processing documents, spreadsheets, presentations, schedules, contracts, drawings, figures, telephone numbers, dates, names, records, notes, files, images, addresses, and personal data about the user.

15. (currently amended) A system operable to represent a user of a message medium and to independently respond to a message received from a person wishing to communicate with the user when the message medium is unattended by the user, the

system comprising:

an interface agent operable to detect an unattended spoken message received from the person, convert the spoken message into a written request, generate a voice signature based upon the spoken message, append the request with an identifier, and convert a result into a verbal response;

an authenticator operable to match the identifier with one of a plurality of known records, thereby authenticating the person;

a classifier operable to create, store, and retrieve a classification associated with each record;

a command creator operable to convert the request into a database query;

an expert system operable to modify the query by applying a collection of rules;

an output action generator operable to execute the query generating and relaying the result to the interface agent; and

a database operable to store information which is accessed by the output action generator through executing the query.

16. (original) The system as set forth in claim 15, the information stored in the database being selected from the group consisting of email, word processing documents, spreadsheets, presentations, schedules, contracts, drawings, figures, telephone numbers, dates, names, records, notes, files, images, addresses, and personal data about the user.

17. (currently amended) A method of representing a user of a message medium and independently responding to a message received from a person wishing to communicate with the user when the message medium is unattended by the user, the method comprising the steps of:

a) detecting an unattended request from a person;

b) authenticating and classifying the person;

c) creating a database query based upon the request;

d) executing the query thereby receiving a result; and

e) relaying the result to the person.

18. (original) The method of claim 17, further comprises the step of modifying the query based upon a classification.

19. (previously presented) The method of claim 17, the step of detecting an unattended request from a person further including the steps of:

a) receiving a message from the person; and

b) appending the message with an identifier forming the request.

20. (previously presented) The method of claim 17, the step of detecting an unattended request from a person further including the steps of:

a) receiving a spoken sentence from the person;

b) converting the sentence into a written message; and

c) appending the message with an identifier forming the request.

21. (original) The method of claim 17, the step of relaying the result to the person further including the steps of:

a) converting the result into a spoken response; and

b) playing the response for the person.